

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 252323

14

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 R

66624

DRAFTED BY:S/S:TRPICKERING

APPROVED BY:S - THE SECRETARY

NEA/INS - DKUX

NEA - LBLAINGEN (SUBSTANCE)

S/S - MR. BARNES

----- 121000

O 292114Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 252323

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D COPY (CORRECTED WORD PARA 1 LINE 1)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI/XO

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN TASK GROUP

REFERENCE: NEW DELHI 15306

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. I ENTIRELY AGREE WITH YOUR REMARKS IN THE REFERENCED CABLE POINTING OUT THAT THERE WAS LITTLE VALUE IN TRYING TO INFORM GOVERNMENTS OF EVENTS WHICH HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT WAS LESS THAN COMPLETELY EXPLICIT WITH ME ABOUT THIS CHANGEOVER. I HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO THEM THAT THIS SORT OF LAPSE CANNOT CONTINUE TO TAKE PLACE AND WILL TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT WE ARE NOTIFIED SUFFICIENTLY FAR IN ADVANCE OF SHIP MOVEMENTS TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO TELL THE INDIANS OF OUR PLANS AND MOVEMENTS.

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2. YOU CAN TELL THE INDIANS, IF YOU BELIEVE IT WOULD BE OF VALUE, THAT WE WILL NOT NOW BE SENDING ANOTHER AIRCRAFT CARRIER TO REPLACE THE ORISKANY, BUT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WILL BE MAINTAINING A LARGER THAN USUAL NUMBER OF DESTROYERS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. ONE OF THESE IS A

NUCLEAR-POWERED FRIGATE THE USS BAINBRIDGE. KISSINGER

SECRET

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